Course Syllabus

Migration and Transnational Identity
AFRS 3000 (3 credits, 45 class hours)

SIT Study Abroad Program:
Morocco: Migration and Transnational Identity

Course Description
The *Migration and Transnational Identity* course provides the main context for students to engage academically, epistemologically and intellectually with the theme of migration. Students utilize a multi-level and multi-disciplinary approach that considers core issues about the local and global cultural politics, development policies and their implications on national economies, local communities and human rights in the context of transnational mobility. The course facilitates the student's development of a critical perception capable of assimilating the reality about the interconnectedness and trans-nationalization not only of problems, but more importantly, of viable alternatives. The *Migration and Transnational Identity* course is divided into modules which explore the following themes: Culture and the Mediterranean Space; Sub-Saharan African Immigrants in Morocco and Trans-Saharan Crossings and Related Issues of Human Rights and Refugee Status; Moroccan Immigrants in Europe and Development; Gender and Migration. Throughout the course, readings and class discussions address issues of religion, race, gender and identity, undocumented and underage migrants, citizenship and nationality.

Course Objectives
The *Migration and Transnational Identity* course has an interdisciplinary and critical focus encompassing 45 academic hours (3 credits). Its main objectives are:

- To study from both a theoretical and practical standpoint the concepts of migration, mobility and trans-nationality in the contemporary context, with particular attention given to Moroccan reality;

- To explore contemporary issues related to economic development in Morocco regarding key social, cultural and political factors especially in relation to the contributions of Moroccan Diaspora;

- To assess the work of local associations and NGOs in the areas of migration and development;

*This syllabus is representative of a typical semester. Because courses develop and change over time to take advantage of unique learning opportunities, actual course content varies from semester to semester.*
• To evaluate the reach and integration of sub-Saharan African immigrants in Morocco;

• To introduce students to a variety of institutions, individuals, geographical locations, and viewpoints in Morocco, thus contributing to cross-cultural understanding and responsibility.

**Expected Outcomes**

By the end of the course, students should be able:

• To demonstrate country-specific knowledge about the impact of migration and mobility on Moroccan culture, economy and society and the underpinnings of Morocco's relations with Europe;

• To show greater understanding of the conditions of Moroccan immigrants in Europe and sub-Saharan immigrants in Morocco and the processes of integration and exclusion they have to negotiate;

• To demonstrate knowledge of the dynamics of border cultures, border crossings and the struggles for the development of a human rights culture that protects the human dignity of immigrants, refugees and other vulnerable groups;

• To produce critical papers on issues of migration and trans-nationality as they relate to the economic and social development and the promotion of human rights culture in Morocco.

**Course Requirements**

**Readings**

You are responsible for all the required readings, and should be prepared to bring them to bear during discussions in class. The readings will help you place the classes in their context, to challenge and engage lecturers, to generate questions for class discussions and to deepen your knowledge of particular aspects discussed in class. They are not necessarily tailor-made for each and every class. Other required readings for each class are assigned at the beginning of the semester.

**General Required Readings**


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**Country-Specific Required Readings**


**PLEASE NOTE**: COURSE CONTENTS, LECTURERS AND READINGS MAY BE MODIFIED AS NEEDED. SHOULD ANY CHANGE OF CLASS TOPICS OR LECTURERS BE NECESSARY, STUDENTS WILL BE NOTIFIED.

**Evaluation and Grading Criteria**

**Assignments**

Timely completion of all assignments is expected. Late hand-ins will be penalized. All assignments are evaluated according to organization, analytical quality, depth of understanding, argumentation and presentation of evidence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Literature review on pre-departure materials</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical analysis</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly synthesis sessions</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic excursions papers</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comprehensive essay exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Attendance and Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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- The Literature Review consists of two essay questions. Students will be expected to respond to one question and will have three days to complete the assignment.
- During the semester, students will be required to write one critical analysis based on lectures and readings assigned. Papers should 2-3 pages long.
- Students will also be required to lead one weekly synthesis session. Leading a synthesis session requires that the student prepare a summary of one of the week’s lectures and readings, make comments and prepare questions for class discussion.
- Following each academic excursion, students will be expected to prepare a 2-page analytical paper focusing on the lectures and/or visits included in the excursion.
- The comprehensive essay exam will consist of two essay questions. Each response should be approximately three pages long.

**Grading Scale**: The grading scale for all classes is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-93%</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89%</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84-86%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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80-83%  B-
77-79%  C+
74-76%  C
70-73%  C-
67-69%  D+
64-66%  D
below 64  F

Grading Criteria
An “A” grade for an assignment entails superior (not just “very good”) performance in terms of structure and organization of assignments, analysis, logical argumentation and consistency, and the provision of factual, numerical and/or historical evidence. In terms of Class Participation, an “A” grade refers to full attendance, punctuality, attentive listening and active engagement in all Academic Seminar lectures, discussions, field trips and other activities. It also means polite and respectful behavior. The level, frequency, and quality of the students’ participation will be monitored and taken into account.

Student Expectations

Class Participation
Participation in class refers to attendance, punctuality, attentive listening and active engagement in all Academic Seminar lectures, discussions, field trips and other activities. It also means polite and respectful behavior.

Please refer to the SIT Study Abroad handbook for policies on academic integrity, ethics, warning and probation, diversity and disability, sexual harassment and the academic appeals process. Also, refer to the specific information available in the Student Handbook and the Program Dossier given to you at Orientation.